

Mr. Peabody's letter 1867. P. 16,
Mrs. Sutton's letter 1867, P. 18,
FIFTEENTH

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TRUSTEES
OF
The Peabody Institute,
OF
SOUTH DANVERS.

SOUTH DANVERS:
PRINTED BY CHARLES D. HOWARD, SUTTON BUILDING.
1866.

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of South
Danvers, qualified to vote in town affairs, held March 18th, 1867,
by adjournment from March 4th, 1867, it was

VOTED, That the Report of the Trustees of the Peabody
Institute, together with the accompanying documents, be ac-
cepted, and that the same be printed for distribution.

A true copy of record.

Attest:

N. H. POOR, Town Clerk.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES.

The Trustees of the Peabody Institute herewith present their Fifteenth Annual Report, with the report of their Treasurer, and the report of the Lyceum and Library Committee, and accompanying documents. These sub-reports and papers are carefully drawn, and enter, with minute detail, into the whole administration of the different departments of the Institute. The view they present of its condition and progress is highly gratifying. As regards the Lecture-department, it is believed that the course of the last season was eminently successful. The lectures, taken together, were deeply interesting and truly instructive. They imparted a fund of useful knowledge and varied information upon subjects of science closely connected with the economy and comforts of daily life, and probably no previous course has given greater satisfaction. A better proof than this could hardly be desired of the sound

practical wisdom of those suggestions which the founder of the Institute has so earnestly made for our guidance and direction.

But it is not proposed to dwell further upon the ordinary affairs and regular routine of the operations of the Institute, as matters of extraordinary interest claim our attention for such space and time as is allotted us.

To say that the past year has been the most eventful one in the history of the Institute since its foundation, would be but to give expression to what must be the settled conviction of every intelligent citizen of the town.

Early in the year, information was received that Mr. Peabody was about to re-visit this country, and, as the time for his coming grew near, upon the motion of the Trustees a town meeting was called, which appointed a Committee of gentlemen to proceed to New York, to greet him upon his arrival there, to assure him of our unabated sentiments of gratitude for the benefits he had conferred upon us, and to invite him to visit the town, to partake of its hospitalities, and to witness the progress and fruits of his benefactions. The members of this Committee were received by Mr. Peabody with that cordiality and courtesy so characteristic of him, and which showed that neither absence or lapse of time had weakened the ties that bound him to his early home. But on account of pressing duties, and the desire to make certain family arrangements which were the first motives of his coming to the United States, Mr. Peabody positively declined any public reception here, but gave assurance that, when his private business was completed, the earliest object of public interest which would receive his attention, would be the Peabody Institute at South Danvers; but that he should go there *upon business*, and desired no popular demonstration.

Accordingly, one pleasant morning in July, unheralded, and without notice except to some half dozen citizens, Mr. Peabody appeared at the Institute, and at once proceeded to unfold his *business*, which was, a proposition to make to the

Trustees an additional donation of One Hundred Thousand Dollars, with the view of putting the Institute upon a basis which would enable it more fully to carry out his original design in its foundation, "the spread of knowledge and morality among the people of his native town."

Mr. Peabody's views were unfolded more at large in a letter which he subsequently addressed to the Trustees, (a copy of which, marked "A," is hereto annexed) and the good sense and sound judgment of its contents were so manifest, that the town, in public meeting called for the purpose, unanimously approved of and ratified its suggestions, and agreed hereafter, and through all time, to be governed in the management of the Institute by its wise and judicious counsels. Mr. Peabody's plan contemplated a total separation of the Branch Library at Danvers from the establishment here, which was in due time effected by the willing municipal action of both towns.

By a liberal donation, added to the amounts already given for their especial use, he provided abundantly for the wants of our sister town, and by making the two institutions independent of each other, he pursued a course which all agree was politic and discreet. Though now almost the last tie has been severed which connected the two municipalities, formerly, and for so many generations, one, yet we doubt not there will always be a reciprocity of good feeling and kind wishes, and that the citizens of each town will strive in a laudable emulation as to which best shall promote the enlightened purposes of their mutual benefactor.

Having accomplished this *business*, Mr. Peabody left us, showering blessings wherever he went, and for a time no more was seen of him in our midst.

In the fall of the year, Mr. Peabody having returned to this section of the Country, it occurred to the Trustees that it might be agreeable to him to meet, in a quiet and informal way, the children of the public schools, in whose welfare he had always manifested so deep an interest, and accordingly a letter was addressed to him on the subject, which received an

immediate reply, expressing his hearty concurrence in the proposition, and an early day was fixed upon for the occasion. It was one long to be remembered by all who had the happiness of participating in its exercises. The Hall of the Institute was filled to its utmost capacity. The bright faces and cheerful voices of our boys and girls, dressed in their holiday attire, and with hearts swelling with emotions of gratitude and love, could not but stir to their profoundest depths that noble nature, all whose aspirations are for the highest good of others, and in simple, but earnest, and touchingly eloquent words, Mr. Peabody addressed the youthful throng,—and his tones will linger in their ears, and his counsels dwell in their minds, long after he, and all of us of the older generations, shall have passed away.

Among the pleasing incidents of this occasion was the exhibition, for the first time, (and a complete surprise,) of a new full length painting of Mr. Peabody, who, dissatisfied with the old picture by Healey, had quietly caused it to be taken from its massive frame, and another and a better one, because more true to nature and character, put in its place. The present picture was done in London, by eminent British artists, and cannot fail to give entire satisfaction to every beholder. It represents Mr. Peabody at a mature period of life, and not only truthfully delineates the form and features, the whole noble presence of the man, but it embodies that ideal of the subject, and is filled and radiant with that glow of mind and heart, which are the highest achievements of true art,—and in this fitting and best presentment will the great practical philanthropist of the nineteenth century be seen, and known, and admired, in after times.

There was yet another incident of this occasion of deeply exciting interest. On the afternoon of that bright October day, the Hall was filled by the adult population of the town, and the medal scholars of the Peabody High School,—and Mr. Peabody announced that he had a communication for them, which he should make “with a degree of pleasure and

satisfaction which could only be equalled by that felt by his hearers," and then, with a few happy words of introduction, he read a letter from our townswoman, Mrs. Eliza Sutton, in which that lady proposed giving to the Trustees the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars, to be invested as a permanent fund, to be called the "Eben Dale Sutton Fund," the income of which should be annually appropriated for the purchase of books of a standard character for a Reference Library, as a distinct department of the general Library, and to be managed, under certain regulations, in connection with that. This letter, which in peculiarly graceful and appropriate language unfolds the tender desire of the bereaved mother to make a fitting and enduring memorial of her departed son, will be found in the appendix to this report, as will also the letter of reply of the Trustees, and a subsequent communication from Mrs. Sutton, suggesting certain matters of detail, and asking the liberty of fitting up and furnishing, at her own expense, in a convenient and attractive manner, the room which shall be set apart for the Reference Library. These letters are marked respectively, "B," "C," and "D."

And so ended this "day of joyful greetings and pleasant surprises," one of the brightest in our local annals, and whose happy memories cannot soon fade away.

Since then, Mr. Peabody has been among us once more. It has been the custom here, for many years, to celebrate the anniversary of Mr. Peabody's birth-day,—and a large party of gentlemen have been wont to gather around the festive board, there to recall the genial traits, exalted virtues and noble deeds of their distinguished townsman and benefactor. And it has been found that these hours, snatched from the ordinary cares and duties of life, and devoted to good cheer and social pleasures, have been as profitable as they were agreeable, serving to keep alive those sensibilities which are too apt to grow dull and be deadened by the engrossing anxieties and toils of our work-a-day world, to create kinder feelings and warmer sympathies among those whose lot has been cast together as neigh-

bors, to awaken higher aspirations and nobler resolves, and a more earnest desire and stronger purpose to be faithful almoners of the bounty of our illustrious friend.

In preparing for the celebration this year, an invitation was sent to Mr. Peabody, then in a distant State, to be present at the dinner, not with any reasonable expectation of securing his attendance, though with a faint hope that he might be able by some possibility to gladden our festive board. The evening of the day, the 18th of February, arrived, and with it came from New York, Mr. Peabody, and when at ten o'clock, he entered the dining room where the birth-day party was assembled, he was received with an intensity of gratification and joy which no language can adequately describe. He entered at once into the spirit of the occasion, he became one of the party, he recalled with hilarity and mirth the scenes, and incidents, and humorous events of his boyhood-days, he talked of old times with the elders, and rallied and joked with the young men, and then, in unpremeditated but eloquent speech, with a mingled pathos and power which could be born only of the most exquisite sensibilities and the noblest nature, he spell-bound his hearers, and carried all hearts captive. On leaving the table, which he did with the declaration that he had there spent one of his very happiest hours, Mr. Peabody, although it was then near midnight, and though during the preceding twenty-four hours he had gone through with an amount of labor which might well have broken down a more youthful man, repaired to the Hall of the Peabody High School, where the graduates were also celebrating his birth-day. With this young and merry throng he mingled freely, entered with zest into their festivities, gave them words of wise counsel and good cheer, and finally departed, with his benediction upon their heads, and leaving in their hearts a depth of reverence and love for him which no time can ever efface.

Through these scenes there was, not the exhibition of any new trait in Mr. Peabody's character, yet a higher manifestation of it, than the outside world could witness or know,—of

a simplicity, a gentleness, a warmth of kindly nature, a child-like integrity of faith, and hope, and love, deep and strong as, and beyond doubt creating and moulding, the high principles which guide his conduct in his great efforts to benefit and bless his fellow-men. It is the rare development of that combination of goodness and greatness which Providence sometimes vouchsafes, which is the noblest revelation of human character, and the choicest gift which the Creator can confer upon his erring creatures.

As early as Mr. Peabody's first visit in July, the subject of an alteration and enlargement of the Institute building was canvassed, and the absolute necessity of further accommodations for the present and prospective wants of the Institute was conceded by all. Not only was an extensive increase of the Library to be provided for, and improved arrangements made in connection with the Hall, but a "strong room" was to be built, to contain a large fire and burglar proof safe, for the reception of the Queen's portrait and letter, the gold boxes and other testimonials and memorials, of rare beauty and great intrinsic value, which Mr. Peabody, with flattering confidence proposed entrusting to our care, thus making this favored Institution the honored depository, and the citizens of this town the trusted custodians of things which in his eyes are precious beyond price, and which always and to all will be objects of increasing attraction and interest.

It was manifest that something must at once be done,—and it required but little reflection to show, and true economy and sound policy dictated, that in making any improvements, regard should be had for future as well as present needs. At the same time it was felt, that we ought not to encroach too much upon the principal of our fund, and thus too largely subtract from the source of that income upon which we must hereafter depend for the generous support and increasing usefulness of the Institution. The Trustees proceeded to consider the matter, making only such delay for careful deliberation as the importance of the subject demanded. They appointed a

Committee of their number to have the whole business especially in charge, who consulted with Mr. G. J. F. Bryant, an architect of established reputation, and whom they believed had the entire confidence of Mr. Peabody. Plans were prepared by him, which, after thorough investigation and repeated revisions, were submitted to Mr. Peabody, and which are understood to have received his approval. Subsequently, the necessary working plans and specifications having been obtained, proposals were called for, and contracts were authorized to be, and were, entered into with Mr. Simeon Flint, of Salem, for the mason-work, and Mr. Chas. G. Folsom, of this town for the carpentry work, both of them experienced, skilful and reliable mechanics.

The plans adopted contemplate the extension of the present building, in the rear, about forty-six feet, and the erection on the westerly side of a square tower, sixteen by eighteen feet, and eighty feet high, this projection above the roof of the building, and its position, partly concealing on its exposed side the increased length, and relieving what would otherwise be a monotonous line. This tower will contain an easy flight of stairs, which will furnish what was very much needed, greater facilities of ingress to and egress from the Hall, and it will also be the ordinary public entrance to the Library. The new space on the lower floor will be thrown into the present Library-room, increasing its size to nearly double its present dimensions, at the northerly end of which, and in the center, will be the "strong room" for the safe keeping and exhibition of the valuables before referred to,—and so, with a noble apartment, ninety by fifty feet, space for the probable growth of the Library for many years, will, it is believed, be amply secured. The addition to the upper story will give two ante-rooms, connected with the Lecture-Hall, with accompanying toilet-rooms, will, by a recess into the enlargement, yield room for a new rostrum for the Hall, thus allowing the space occupied by the present large platform to be used for additional seats, and will then leave a pleasant hall, of about forty eight by twenty four

feet, well proportioned and admirably lighted, for the use of the Eben Dale Sutton Reference Library. With the additional accomodations thus obtained, and with the exterior and grounds suitably arranged, the Trustees feel confident that they will meet the wants of the Institute and the public, and secure a structure which, while convenient and commodious for every legitimate purpose, will be creditable to all concerned. It would be impossible, of course, to satisfy every individual's idea, to please every individual taste, much less to gratify every man's whim or caprice; but it may be well to state that, with possibly a single exception, the Trustees were unanimous in approval of the plan which has been adopted, as the best which, with the means at their command, and under all the circumstances, they could devise and carry out. The work is now well in hand, will go forward as the season opens with promptness and vigor, and will be executed with as much despatch as is consistent with thoroughness. The estimates of the total cost of the work, which have been made with extreme care and the most anxious effort to anticipate every possible expenditure, fall within the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars, a sum of which Mr. Peabody said to the Trustees, that, if they did not exceed it, he should regard them as exercising a commendable prudence and economy.

The Trustees sincerely hope that when this work shall have been fully completed, it will meet the approbation of the founder of the Institute, and be satisfactory to their fellow citizens: but however this may be, they will feel and know that they have acted according to their best judgment and discretion, and with the single aim of faithfully discharging the important duty committed to their care.

It would be a pleasant task, now, to turn from the present, and to dwell in anticipation upon *the future* of the Peabody Institute; to show how, with its added means and larger facilities, it will continue to widen and expand its fields of usefulness,—how, with its Library containing all that can interest, instruct and enlighten the popular mind, yet possessing those

rare treasures of literature, and science, and art, which the ripest scholarship and the profoundest erudition might seek,—how, with its Lectures adapted to the physical, and mental, and moral wants of the people, yet diversified with such as should satisfy the highest culture and the abstrusest thought,—how, as year after year rolls on, its influences will tend to enlarge the ideas, to elevate the purposes, to refine the manners, to purify the tastes, to improve the morals, to liberalize, and dignify, and adorn the whole social life of our people, and through all the succeeding generations be the pride and honor of the town, and an unspeakable blessing to all within her borders. Yet equally delightful would it be to review the character and recount the virtues of him who has originated all this good,—whose unbounded and judicious charities to the poor and destitute, whose princely donations in behalf of education, and religion, and of every deserving object which aims to make men wiser, and happier, and better, have made his name a household word on both shores of the Atlantic, have received the grateful acknowledgment of crowned heads, have drawn from the assembled Congress of the Great Republic a merited and unparalleled tribute of thanks, and have won for George Peabody the admiration of all Christendom.

But neither the time nor the occasion will permit us to linger on these themes.

Only let us, whose happy lot it is to live in this day, and to co-operate in a glorious work, let us resolve, faithfully and with pious care, to guard the precious trust committed to our charge, conscientiously to improve its high privileges, and to transmit them unimpaired to those who shall come after us. All of which is respectfully submitted,

In behalf of the Trustees,

ALFRED A. ABBOTT, *President.*

APPENDIX "A."

GEORGETOWN, Sept. 22d, 1866.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PEABODY INSTITUTE, SOUTH DANVERS.

Gentlemen,—On re-visiting this country, there were few subjects in which I felt a deeper interest than in the condition and success of the Institute at South Danvers, and the Branch Library at Danvers. After close personal observation, and careful inquiry, I am fully satisfied that these Institutions have proved of great benefit to my native town, and that with additional means at their command, their usefulness may be largely increased and extended. Accordingly, and with the same general purposes which prompted my original endowment, to wit, the spread of knowledge and morality among your inhabitants, I now propose to give to the Institute at South Danvers, in addition to what I have already given, the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars, and an additional sum of Forty Thousand Dollars to the Branch Library at Danvers, to meet the wants of the people there.

As I understand it to be the desire of the inhabitants of each town that the two establishments should hereafter be separated, distinct, and entirely independent of each other, and as in my own judgment this arrangement would be for the best good of all concerned, it will be necessary that the town of South Danvers should formally relinquish all rights and privileges in the Institution at Danvers; such action to be followed by corresponding action on the part of the town of Danvers, relinquishing all rights and privileges in the Institution at South Danvers.

It will also be necessary that the funds, heretofore placed in your hands for the especial use of the Branch Library, should be transferred to those who are hereafter to have it in charge.

This being done, and the municipal action suggested above having been had, I shall be ready to pay over to the Treasurer of your Board the sum indicated above, to be applied by yourselves and your successors

in office, in the enlargement and improvement of the Institute, in expanding its capacities for usefulness, and in making it what I fervently hope it may be, a perpetual and ever increasing source of good to the people of South Danvers.

I am reluctant to annex to this gift any conditions, but I do most earnestly desire harmony, peace and good will. In my first gift to the town, I suggested "that it might be advisable for the inhabitants, by their own act, to exclude sectarian theology and political discussions forever from the walls of the Institution." The views I then entertained, time has only served to strengthen and confirm, and I must not omit now to impress them upon you. And that there may be no misunderstanding as to what my views are, and as I cannot express them more distinctly or forcibly, I will repeat to you the suggestions made by me in a letter establishing the Institute at Baltimore.

"My earnest wish to promote at all times a spirit of harmony and good will in society; my aversion to intolerance, bigotry, and party rancor, and my enduring respect and love for the happy Institutions of our prosperous republic, impel me to express the wish that the Institute I have proposed to you shall always be strictly guarded against the possibility of being made a theatre for the dissemination or discussion of sectarian theology or party politics: that it shall never minister in any manner whatever, to infidelity, to visionary theories of a pretended philosophy which may be aimed at the subversion of the approved morals of society, that it shall never lend its aid or influence to the propagation of opinions tending to create or encourage sectional jealousies in our happy country, or which may lead to the alienation of the people of one State or section of the Union from those of another. But that it shall be so conducted, throughout its whole career, as to teach political and religious charity, toleration and beneficence and prove itself to be in all conditions and contingencies, the true friend of our inestimable Union, of the salutary institutions of our free government, and of liberty regulated by law."

These views, the force of which the recent unhappy troubles in this country have not impaired, but rather served to increase their weight and render them more impressive, I enjoin upon you and your successors forever, for your invariable observance and enforcement, in the administration of the duties confided to you. I would not have any thing said or done, by or under the auspices of the Institute, or within its walls, I would not have in the lecture room any expression of opinions, or speech, or word, which would create unpleasant feelings, or rankle in the breast of any one person, or set neighbor against neighbor, or do aught to disturb that kindly temper and social harmony which are most favorable to intellectual and moral culture, and which it is my earnest desire to promote. Surely there may be one place, one retreat, free from contention and strife, which angry passions and vituperative debate shall not enter,

—where there shall be agreement, sympathy, and good will,—where the irritated temper and fretted mind may find relief,—where all, forgetting for a time their diverse opinions and conflicting views, may meet upon a common level, and together unite in efforts for a higher nature and a nobler life. Such a retreat I would establish, and to secure this I invoke your co-operation.

I have only one other suggestion to make—Her majesty, Queen Victoria, has been pleased to do me the signal honor of writing me a highly complimentary letter with her own hand, and tendering me the gift of her portrait. This is now being executed in enamel on plate of gold by her majesty's artist at London, and will be forwarded to me during the present year. As a work of art it will be extraordinary and unique: its intrinsic value will be great, and as an undeserved and too flattering personal testimonial and tribute, its worth to me and mine will be beyond price. Of this letter of the Queen, her portrait, the gold boxes from the city of London, and other valued testimonials, I propose to make you and your successors the custodians.

In completing the arrangements for enlarging the Institute building which I understand you are now making, I require of you to provide a strong room, with suitable safe, for the deposit and exhibition of these valuables, which shall be secure against accident or violence, and which so far as human prudence can do, shall preserve them uninjured for future generations.

Allow me, gentlemen, in closing, to recognize, and thank you for the earnest labors by which you have striven to render my efforts in behalf of the people of my native town successful, to congratulate myself and you that those labors and efforts have thus far met with a return which should gratify the warmest anticipations, and to indulge the hope that by the blessing of a Kind Providence, our joint endeavors may be crowned with great and abiding good results.

I am, with great respect,

Your humble servant,

(Signed)

GEORGE PEABODY.

APPENDIX "B."

SOUTH DANVERS, Oct. 15th, 1866.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PEABODY INSTITUTE,

Gentlemen,—The rare advantages conferred on our community by the establishment of the Peabody Library, are fully appreciated and gratefully acknowledged by all who have been privileged to enjoy them. Having had favorable opportunities for observing its beneficent results hitherto, I could but cherish a deep interest in its continued prosperity and success. This interest has ripened into a feeling akin to personal affection, through recollection of the delight and improvement which its treasures afforded to my dearly beloved son, now deceased, Eben Dale Sutton.

As a memorial of this departed son, I have desired to make to the Institute some offering, which should permanently connect his name with this noble public benefaction.

Having received from Mr. Peabody a kind and cordial approval of my plan, I propose to present for your acceptance, as Trustees of the Peabody Library, the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars, for the furtherance of the objects had in view by its founder. In making this gift, it is my wish not to trespass upon the ground already so successfully occupied by the present library for circulation.

I desire that it may be invested as a permanent fund, to be called the Eben Dale Sutton Fund, the income of which as it accrues, shall be devoted exclusively to the establishment of a Reference Library; that the books purchased for it shall be of enduring value, and such only as are desirable and indispensable for the use of scholars; that they shall be substantially and as far as practicable, uniformly bound, and shall be kept together in some room of the Institute Building, especially assigned for their accommodation, from which they shall never be loaned or taken. It is not my purpose to attach any onerous conditions to this donation; but at a future time, should my proffer be acceptable to you, I will express more fully my wishes and plans for its disposition and management.

I shall place this gift in your hands, gentlemen, associated as it is with tender memories, with full assurance that it will be wisely administered, and will prove a lasting blessing to the present, and to future generations.

Yours, respectfully,

ELIZA SUTTON.

APPENDIX "C."

SOUTH DANVERS, January 5, 1867.

MRS. EBEN SUTTON,

Dear Madam,—At the request, and on behalf of the Trustees of the Peabody Institute, we have the honor to reply to your letter of October 15th, in which you propose presenting to the Trustees, the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars, the income of which shall be devoted to the maintenance of a Reference Library, in connection with the existing Library of the Institute, and which, in memory of your departed son, Eben Dale Sutton, shall be known by and identified with his name.

We can assure you, that the delay in making a formal personal response to your generous offer, which has already and long since been publicly and gratefully acknowledged, has not arisen from any lack of full and proper appreciation on the part of the Trustees, of the magnitude and importance of the donation, or of the delicate and graceful manner in which it has been tendered. On the contrary, they most heartily recognize in this liberal benefaction, the endowment of a department of the Institute which will add vastly to its means of usefulness, and which, while largely conducing to the intellectual and moral improvement, through succeeding generations, of those for whose benefit the Institute was founded, will be an ever-enduring monument to the memory and virtues of your deceased son.

The Trustees cannot but feel, *Dear Madam*, that in this act you have done that which would be peculiarly grateful to the feelings of your late husband, who for many years was connected with the government of the Institute, served its interests most faithfully in a highly responsible position, and through life evinced a deep regard for its prosperity and success. In accepting your munificent gift, for the purposes declared and with the conditions imposed, we desire, in behalf of the Trustees of the Institute to signify the deep emotions of gratitude which they share in common with all their fellow citizens, whose representatives they are, and to pledge to you their earnest endeavors to make this noble endowment a source of substantial and perpetual good to our community, and a worthy memorial of him your sweet affection for whom has inspired so fitting and splendid a tribute.

It is hardly necessary for us to add, that the Trustees will at all times be pleased to hear any suggestion you may wish to make as to the disposition of the funds which you propose to place in their hands, and will take sincere pleasure in acceding to your views and wishes.

And it is our fervent hope that you may long be spared to witness the fruits of your bounty, and that, in the enjoyment of health and all the blessings of life, a kind Providence may ever attend you.

We are, *dear Madam*, respectfully and truly yours,

ALFRED A. ABBOTT, } Committee of Trustees of
GEORGE OSBORNE, } the Peabody Institute.

APPENDIX "D."

SOUTH DANVERS, January 28, 1867.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PEABODY INSTITUTE, SOUTH DANVERS :

Gentlemen,—Through a Committee of your Board, Hon. A. A. Abbott and Dr. George Osborne, I have received your formal acceptance of the gift, which, on the Fifteenth of October last it was my happiness to offer you in trust, for the foundation and establishment of a Reference Library as a department of the Peabody Institute.

In the fulfillment of my offer made at that time, I herewith hand you Twenty Thousand Dollars in City of Boston Bonds, principal and interest payable in gold, together with the interest accrued since the first day of that month.

As regards the disposition and management of this gift, allow me to repeat what I have already expressed in my former letter to you, together with a few other suggestions.

I desire that it may constitute a permanent fund to be called "The Eben Dale Sutton Fund," the income of which, as it accrues, without any abatement, shall be passed to the credit of the Lyceum and Library Committee of the Institute; and that it shall be by them wholly expended in the purchase of books of practical and enduring value, together with charts, maps, diagrams, models and such other helps to the acquisition of knowledge, as are to be found in the best libraries established for the use of students and scholars; and in defraying such incidental expenses as may become necessary for the preservation and perpetuation of the books and apparatus constituting the library; and for no other purpose. I desire that the books may be, substantially, and as far as practicable, uniformly bound; and that they be kept together in a room of the Institute Building especially assigned for their accommodation, from which they shall never be loaned or taken.

It is my wish that there shall be affixed to the inside of the cover of each volume placed in the library an impression from a plate which I will provide and hand to you, bearing the seal of the Institute and the following words. "Peabody Institute." From the Eben Dale Sutton Fund. Purchased, A. D.— and figures indicating the year in which it was purchased.

It seems to me so important to prevent the accumulation of the interest of this fund, and to ensure the application of it to the end in view, that I am led to make it a condition of this gift, that at no time shall the Lyceum and Library Committee hold in their hands, unexpended, more than the income of one year.

Whenever the contemplated changes in the Institute Building shall have been made, and a suitable room appropriated to the Reference

Library, should it be agreeable to your Board, it will afford me pleasure to furnish it, at my own expense with whatever may be necessary to render it convenient and attractive.

This library is designed primarily and chiefly for the use and improvement of our own townsmen ; but I trust that in its management a liberal policy will be pursued towards those not resident within our borders ; so that whatever treasures of knowledge it may at any time contain, may be easily accessible to any desirous of profiting by their use. I am aware that the value and usefulness of this foundation must depend mainly upon the intelligence and rectitude of those who shall be charged with its administration ; and that in the hands of a competent and conscientious Board of Trustees, the less it is cumbered with conditions, the more efficient it will prove. To the few, therefore, stated above, I have none to add.

The good judgment and fidelity which have characterized the direction of the affairs of the Peabody Institute since its establishment, will not, I am sure, be diminished by added years of experience ; and I do not, therefore entertain a doubt of its continued and increased success.

During the remainder of my life, it will be to me a source of happiness, that it has been my fortune to unite with the liberal-minded founder of the Institute, and with you, gentlemen of the Board of Trustees, in efforts for the wider diffusion of sound learning ; and the Institution under your care will continue to be to me an object of interest and affection.

Thanking you for the kind and graceful terms in which you were pleased to signify your acceptance of this gift, and reciprocating your expressions of personal regard,

I remain,

Yours very respectfully,

ELIZA SUTTON.

Trustees of Peabody Institute in account with Geo. Osborne, Treas.

1866.

Dr.

Mar.	5,	To paid sundries, per H. A. Hardy, viz:—	
		Clark & Giddings, carpenters,	\$1 35
		Everett & Williams, picture frames,	2 89
		W. Blaney, painter and glazier,	9 91
			<hr/> \$14 15
	6,	To paid Branch Library Committee's draft,	210 00
	27,	To paid Whitten, for furnace funnel, &c.,	37 50
	29,	To paid B. R. White, mason, per E. Littlefield,	4 55
April	6,	To paid gas bill,	29 60
	9,	To paid Insurance policy, Neptune Office,	12 50
May	8,	To paid H. O. Warren's coal bill of September 3d, 1865,	80 00
	12,	To paid Ins. to Franklin Co., 1 yr. to Ap'l 21, 1867, \$11 50	
	12,	To paid Ins. to Neptune Co., 1 yr. to Ap'l 21, 1867,	8 50
			<hr/> 20 00
June	9,	To paid Aqueduct bills, four of \$2.00 each,	8 00
	10,	To paid Lyceum and Library Committee's draft, of South Danvers,	700 00
July	11,	To paid gas bill, three months to 1st inst.,	36 80
Aug.	18,	To paid J. H. Teague, janitor, 6 mos. to July 1st, \$100.00	
		Extra labor on premises,	16 67
			<hr/> 116 67
	25,	To paid Grout & Munroe,	5 00
Oct'r	12,	To paid gas bill, for three months to October 1st,	4 80
	13,	To paid Branch Library Committee's draft,	247 80
Nov.	7,	To paid Bumstead & Co., paper hangings for brick house,	18 81
	22,	To paid four Aqueduct bills, and repairs,	8 50
	27,	To paid sundry bills, to aid the school children's reception of Mr. Geo. Peabody, (their predecessor in the schools,) for October 15,	214 68
Dec.	17,	To paid Anthony Ronan, for repairing stone wall,	15 00
	18,	To paid Cornelius Mahoney, for teaming rocks,	1 00

1867.

Jan'y	2,	To paid gas bill, three months,	29 60
	4,	To paid L.yc. and Library Committee's draft, So. Danvers,	300 00
	8,	To paid H. L. Whidden, for setting glass, &c.,	4 37
	15,	To paid Franklin Insurance Co.,	\$30.00
		Manufacturers Insurance Co.,	15 00
			<hr/> 45 00
	25,	To paid Solomon Welch, for teaming,	1 50
	25,	To paid Neptune Ins. Co., on \$2500, policy No. 43,860,	16 88
	26,	To paid J. O. Whitten, for furnace grate, funnel, &c.,	10 85

Amount carried forward, \$2,193 56

	<i>Amount brought up,</i>	\$2,183 56
Feb'y 7,	To paid Hills, carpenter, for labor on houses and hall, . . .	6 50
15,	To paid H. O. Warren & Co., for 10 tons coal for furnace, . . .	100 00
18,	To paid Lye and Library Committee's draft, So. Danvers, . . .	200 00
18,	To paid for government stamps and postage,	1 00
	To transfer to Francis Peabody, Jr., treasurer of "Peabody Institute," DANVERS, note, of town of Danvers, dated February 25th, 1857, for \$7,000 00—interest paid to August 25th, 1866. This is done in effecting a total separation of the two Institutions,	7,000 00
	To transferred to credit of "Fund Account," the 100 Mass. Bonds of \$1,000 00 each, of the credit of Nov. 6, in this account,	99,775 00
	To balance,	184 90
		<hr/>
		\$109,460 96

Trustees of Peabody Institute in account with Geo. Osborne, Treas.

1866.	Cr.
Mar. 1, By balance from former account,	\$48 78
7, By town of Danvers, interest 6 months to 25th Feb., 1866, on note dated Feb. 25th, 1857, for \$7,000,	210 00
By received for use of hall on Jan. 10th and Feb. 17th, . . .	17 00
22, By town of South Danvers, interest, 6 months to Mar. 12, 1866, on note dated March 12, 1858, for 7,000,	210 00
April 7, By rents, per W. H. Little, viz:— Woodbury, three months to April 1st,	\$52 00
Grosvenor, three months to April 1st,	37 50
Galloup, three months to April 1st,	37 50
	<hr/>
	127 00
May 12, By town of South Danvers, interest, 6 months to April 28, 1866, on note of \$3,000, at rate of 7 3-10ths from 1st of April,	93 30
By received for use of hall, by Watts, \$8; Nichols Lodge, \$20; received April 7th,	28 00
July 3, By received from Geo. Peabody, Esq., of London, per B. B. & Co., semi-annual donation,	600 00
10, By rents, three months to 1st July, per W. H. L., as above, viz:—Woodbury, Grosvenor, and Galloup, . . .	127 00
10, By received for use of hall by Nichols Lodge and Dr. Miller, per W. H. L.,	\$104 50
Deduct paid for galloon,	1 42
	<hr/>
	103 08
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	\$1,564 16

<i>Amount brought up.</i>		\$1,564 16
Aug. 21,	By dividend on 3 shares Warren National Bank, . . .	15 00
Sept. 25,	By town of Danvers, 6 months to August 25th, interest on note of \$7,000,—interest from 25th of February to 1st of April, at 6 per cent.,	\$42 00
	From 1st of April to 25th of Aug., at 7 3-10ths,	205 80
		<hr/> 247 80
Nov. 6,	By received of George Peabody, Esq., of London, per Blake Bro's & Co., of Boston, to <i>in part</i> meet his new donation of the 19th of October of \$100,000.00, viz:—One hundred Massachusetts coast defence 5 per cent. gold bearing bonds of one thousand dollars each, No. 389 to 488 inclusive, each bond having 33 coupons attached, No. 8 to 40 inclusive, payable semi-annually on July, 1, '67, to July 1, '83,—appraised by Messrs. Blake Bro's & Co., as their value on 19th of Oct'r, 1866, at	99,775 00
7,	By rents of Woodbury, Grosvenor and Galloup, 3 months to October 1st,	127 00
28,	By dividend on 3 shares Warren National Bank, . . .	15 00
	By interest from town of South Danvers, 6 months to 28th of October, on note for \$3,000, at 7 3-10ths per cent.,	109 60

1867.

Jan'y 1,	By received of George Peabody, Esq., "Duncan, Sherman & Co.," draft of the 27th December, 1866, for the complement of the donation of October 19th. (See credit, November 6th.)	225 00
25,	By rents of Woodbury, Grosvenor and Galloup, 3 months to January 1st,	127 00
	By received on December 7th, 1866, interest from town of South Danvers on \$7,000 note, 6 months to September 12th, at 7 3-10ths per cent.,	255 50
	By taken from the Fund Account, for the purpose of transferring to the Peabody Institute of DANVERS, note due from town of Danvers, dated February 25, 1867, of \$7,000, as per debtor of this account, Feb'y 18, 1867,	7,000 00
		<hr/> \$109,460 96

E. E.

GEORGE OSBORNE, *Treasurer.*

SOUTH DANVERS, February 25th, 1867.

PERMANENT FUNDS OF THE PEABODY INSTITUTE, VIZ :

1st, Town of So. Danvers, promissory note dated March 12, 1858,	\$7,000 00
2d, Town of So. Danvers, promissory note dated April 28, 1858,	3,000 00
3d, Three shares in Warren National Bank,	300 00
4th, 100 Massachusetts coast defence 5 per cent. gold bearing bonds, of \$1,000 each, payable semi-annually on the 1st of July, 1867, to July 1st, 1883,—appraised by Messrs. Blake Bro's & Co., of Boston, as their value on the 19th of October, 1866, at	99,775 00
5th, Real Estate, comprising two dwelling houses, with land and appurtenances, one of brick on the easterly side, and one of wood on the westerly side of the land belonging to, and on which the Institute Hall is located,	12,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$122,075 00
6th, The Peabody Institute Hall and land, with its Busts, Portraits and cabinets of other valuables, and the Library, situate on Main street, South Danvers,—not appraised pecuniarily.	

GEORGE OSBORNE,

Treasurer for the Trustees of Peabody Institute.

SOUTH DANVERS, February 25th, 1867.

THE "EBEN DALE SUTTON FUND" OF THE PEABODY INSTITUTE.

Endowed by Mrs. ELZA SUTTON, of South Danvers; accepted and established by and under the personal auspices of GEORGE PEABODY, Esq., of London, on the 15th of October, A. D. 1866.

1867.

Jan'y 29th, 20 Boston City 5 per cent. gold bearing bonds, of \$1,000 each, with the accrued interest from 1st of October, 1866, payable semi-annually from October 1, 1866, to October 1, 1883,	\$20,000 00
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GEORGE OSBORNE,

Treasurer of Trustees of Peabody Institute.

REPORT OF THE LYCEUM AND LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PEABODY INSTITUTE:

Gentlemen:—I have the honor to submit the following report, together with the reports of the Treasurer and the Librarian of the Lyceum and Library Committee, and of the Sub-Committees on Lectures and the Library, and of the Committee on the Branch Library at Danvers—to which reports I would refer you for a detailed account of our operations.

The Library is constantly growing in size and importance. The donation of \$20,000 from Mrs. Eliza Sutton, in memory of "Eben Dale Sutton," the income of which is to be used in establishing a "Reference Library" of standard works "of enduring value," will add greatly to the usefulness of the Library to those engaged in literary and scientific pursuits. It will ultimately become one of the most important features of the Institution, and will attract to our town a most desirable class of citizens. Enlarged, as the Library will be, from this source and from the munificent additional donation just

received from Mr. Peabody, the Committee believe it will eventually become one of the most extensive in the State.

As soon as the contemplated alterations in the building are completed, both Libraries should be kept open to the public a part of every day, except Sundays, which will render it necessary for the Librarian to devote his entire time to his official duties, and his salary should be raised to correspond with the increased demands made upon his time. The labors and responsibilities of the Library and Lyceum Committee will also be greatly increased.

It is the universal testimony that the course of lectures just closed has been the most successful we have ever had. The Committee have strictly regarded the known wishes of Mr. Peabody, and carefully avoided having any lectures relating to party politics or sectarian theology. The evident satisfaction with which the lectures were received, has justified the action of the Committee, and testified to the wisdom of Mr. Peabody's suggestion, that everything that could give offence to any portion of our citizens should be rigorously excluded.

It has been a great desideratum heretofore to obtain scientific lecturers, who could present their subjects in a popular manner to a general audience. The Committee were very fortunate the past season in securing the services of Prof. Clark, of Amherst College, who possesses this happy faculty in a rare degree. The Professor held the attention of large audiences each evening till long after the usual hour of closing.

The account of Mr. Osborne shows the disposition we have made of the funds intrusted to our charge, in the same clear and intelligible manner as heretofore. It appears there has been expended on account of the Institution in South Danvers during the past year—

For lectures,	\$500 55
For books,	451 43
For salaries, &c.,	487 50
For printing, re-binding books and incidental expenses,	174 55
Total,	\$1614 03
Leaving a balance on hand of	13 99

The total expenses on account of the Branch Library at Danvers (no additions having been made to the Library) have been \$286.30, and there remains to their credit \$231.57.

A most important event in the history of the Institute was the reception, on the 15th of October last, of the school children by Mr. Peabody. It was an event to be long remembered, not by the children only but by all who were present on the occasion. It is noteworthy, that all, or nearly all of Mr. Peabody's donations (in this country at least) have been in some way for the benefit of the young.

It is to the children of to-day that the destinies of our country are to be confided, and Mr. Peabody, who has proved his patriotism in a thousand ways—and last, but not least, by refusing a title of nobility when tendered him by the most powerful sovereign in the world—has shown his appreciation of this fact by providing, as far as human foresight can provide, that the men of the future shall be qualified to maintain the government, and the institutions bequeathed to us by our fathers.

Mr. Poole, the Librarian, has prepared an album, to be kept in the Institute, containing an account of the proceedings on the day of the reception, and photographs of the principal persons present on the occasion. It will be a most interesting memorial, which will become more and more valuable with the lapse of years.

The Librarian alludes, in his report, to the portrait of the Queen of England, presented by herself to Mr. Peabody. As this was the greatest honor Her Majesty could confer on Mr. Peabody, so he has conferred his greatest honor on us in making us the custodians of the portrait, and of the other valuable testimonials that have been presented to him by different cities and societies.

I take pleasure in being able to report that (as heretofore) entire harmony has prevailed in the councils of the Library and Lyceum Committee. Each and all have exerted themselves to the utmost to faithfully perform their respective

duties, and promote the usefulness of the Institution confided to their charge.

Although the Committee are chosen annually by the Trustees, the same gentlemen have usually been elected for several successive years. They have thus become familiar with, and better able to discharge their duties to their own satisfaction and that of others.

In reviewing the past, the most eventful year in the history of the Institute, the Committee take pleasure in being able to report, that never before has it exerted so extended, so powerful and beneficial an influence upon our community as at present. This is in a great measure due to the untiring and efficient efforts of Mr. Poole, the Librarian, and of Mr. Upton of the Sub-Committee on the Lectures.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS E. PROCTOR,

Chairman of the Lyceum and Library Committee.

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY.

The Library Sub-Committee would respectfully submit the following report:

No important change has been made in the Library during the last year. The annual examination in July was much more thorough than usual. During the last few years the

high cost of books has induced the Librarian to retain many upon the shelves for circulation which were unfit for use ; from many of these several leaves were missing, and others were much torn and defaced. The Committee were unanimous in deciding that books, thus torn and defaced should no longer be allowed to go out, and that all of these, which were of sufficient merit to retain a place in the Library should be replaced by new books ; and that the remainder should be stricken from the catalogue. The examination was thorough and the Library is now in better condition than it has been for several years. The large number of persons present on the days for the delivery of books has indicated an increased interest in the Library during the past year ; this is fully confirmed by the report of the Librarian.

The Committee have made as large an addition of standard, scientific and miscellaneous books as the funds placed at their disposal would allow. The number purchased has been somewhat smaller than usual. Several valuable donations of books have been received and duly noticed in the report of the Librarian.

The Committee find, whenever a new lot of books has been added to the Library that, at the next Library day, within a few hours after the room is opened, nearly every new book has been taken from the shelves. This is not only the fact in relation to books of fiction, but also of the more standard books which treat of science, philosophy, or history ; however miscellaneous may be the subjects represented, if only the books are new it is enough to secure for them a reading. It would avail but little for the Committee to condemn this method of reading which, while seeking after the newest neglects the most important and instructive books. It is enough for them to note the fact, and if they would secure a continued interest in the Library to so use the funds placed at their disposal as to secure each year as large a number as possible of new publications.

The munificent donation made to the Institute this year by

Mr Peabody, after deducting the sum needed to make the large addition to the building contemplated by the Trustees, will leave a liberal sum to be added to that now held by them for the support of the Institute. This will undoubtedly give an opportunity of increasing the usefulness of the Library, not only by affording the means of purchasing more rare and costly books, but also by allowing the room to be opened on more days of the week, by establishing a room for the reading of periodicals, and in various other ways of promoting the objects for which the Library was established.

The Committee have long been desirous of establishing a room for the reading of periodicals, and now that an addition is to be made to the building, they trust that a suitable room will be fitted for that purpose. They have also been desirous that the new room to be added for the use of the Library should be so arranged that it might be used for a Reference Library; so that, whenever a new and consolidated catalogue should be made, all books not allowed to go out, and all others not allowed to go, except by special permission should be placed in that room.

The noble donation of Mrs. Sutton, for the establishment of a "Reference Library," to be called the "Eben Dale Sutton Library," to consist of rare and costly books not to be taken from the room, will be a valuable auxiliary to the Peabody Library, and need not cause any essential change in its management. Each can be so managed and arranged as to contribute to the usefulness of the other. The custody of the Sutton Library, and the increased facilities of extending its usefulness furnished by the recent princely donation of Mr. Peabody will give to the Peabody Library an importance and value which cannot be too highly estimated.

For the Committee,

AMOS MERRILL, *Chairman.*

REPORT OF THE LYCEUM SUB-COMMITTEE.

The Sub-Committee on Lectures respectfully submit this, their annual report:

It will be seen, by reference to the table accompanying this report, that, as usual, the course has been of a miscellaneous character, the number of scientific lectures bearing a larger proportional part to the whole than has been the case for some years, at least.

Upon reading the reports of our predecessors we find that they all desired to procure scientific lecturers having the ability to popularize their subjects to such a degree, that those who were not conversant with the sciences should become interested in, and awakened to, the wonders of nature; we find also that in most cases they were disappointed, and finally that it was considered almost an impossibility to obtain a scientific lecturer who would meet their expectations.

Last year, Prof. Cooke, of Harvard University, delivered two lectures, which were of such a character that the Committee and audience were highly pleased, and the Committee regret that through a misapprehension his valuable services were not secured this year; but Prof. Clark, of Amherst, by his popular style and successful experiments, gratified and instructed all who had the good fortune to hear him,—and from the full attendance on each evening, the Committee fear that the hall will be too small for scientific lectures, if their successors should be so fortunate as to secure such an interesting and popular lecturer.

The other lectures of the course have been generally re-

ceived with a high degree of favor, and are believed to have been quite satisfactory.

FITCH POOLE, FRANCIS BAKER, THOMAS E. PROCTOR, HENRY A. HARDY, JOHN PINDER, J. WARREN UPTON,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
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The following table gives the names of the lecturers, with the subjects of the lectures and dates of their delivery :

Nov. 20, 1866, Prof. WM. H. BREWER, of Yale College, New Haven. "Mountain Scenery of California."

Nov. 27, 1866, Prof. MOSES T. BROWN, of Tufts College. "Reading, a Fine Art."

Dec. 4, 1866, EDWIN P. WHIPPLE, Esq., of Boston. "Shoddy."

Dec. 11, 1866, BURT G. WILDER, M. D., of Boston. "The Human Hand and Foot."

Dec. 18, 1866, Rev. WM. M. BARBOUR, of South Danvers. "Revolutions in Social Life."

Jan. 1, 1867, Gen. WM. COGGSWELL, of Salem. "Sherman's March."

Jan. 8, 1867, Prof. WM. S. CLARK, of Amherst College. "Salt."

" 15, " " " " " " " " "Coal."

" 22, " " " " " " " " "Heat."

" 29, " Rev. ALONZO A. MINER, D. D., of Tufts College. "Music and Morals."

Feb. 5, 1867, Prof. WM. S. CLARK. "Heat."

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The close of another year finds the Library in a condition of active usefulness, and more than ever resorted to by our citizens, to appropriate its treasures for their benefit and that of their families. The deliveries of the past year, ending with the summer vacation, show an excess over any former one during the existence of the Library. The following table exhibits the fluctuations in the demand for a term of nine years, beginning with 1858.

In 1858 were delivered	21,479 Volumes.
1859 " "	21,887 "
1860 " "	20,024 "
1861 " "	24,217 "
1862 " "	23,907 "
1863 " "	23,085 "
1864 " "	21,755 "
1865 " "	21,702 "
1866 " "	24,428 "

The Library, which has always held a high position in the regards of the people, holds to-day a more advanced place than ever before. The presence in our vicinity of its founder and patron, has had a stimulating influence upon all its interests aside from the munificent bounty with which he has endowed it. The number of new applicants who have claimed the privileges of the Library the past year is 256, making the whole number who have signed the regulations 4,290. Very few of these applications were from our neighbor town of Danvers, a fact which shows that the people of that town are

well satisfied with the facilities afforded them by their own Library, and that the inhabitants of both places may cheerfully acquiesce in the formal separation which has been so harmoniously effected.

The number of Volumes in the Library at the date of the last Report was 11,527. The number donated and purchased the last year was 327 volumes. The cost of books continues extremely high with little prospect of immediate abatement.

The following individuals and institutions have made donations of books to the Library since the last report :

Department of the Interior,-----	35 volumes.
Am. Swedenborg Publishing Society,-----	19 “
Boston Publishing Society,-----	1 “
L' Institut Canadien,-----	2 “
New York Mer. Library Association,-----	1 “
U. States Sanitary Commission,-----	5 “
Troy Young Men's Association,-----	1 “
Hon. John B. Alley,-----	14 “
Hon. Timothy Davis,-----	6 “
Hon. Charles Sumner,-----	2 “
Rev. W. M. Barbour,-----	1 “
Hon. Benjamin C. Perkins,-----	3 “
Hon. Henry Poor,-----	1 “
Caleb W. Osborne,-----	3 “
Prof. G. A. Osborne,-----	2 “
J. Warren Upton,-----	2 “
F. Poole,-----	1 “
John R. Southwick, Lowell,-----	1 “
E. B. Elliott, Washington, D. C.,-----	1 “

It will be seen that the U. States Congressional Documents continue to be forwarded from the Dept. of the Interior. We have also a valuable contribution from Hon. Timothy Davis, formerly member of Congress from this District, of bound quarto volumes of the Pacific Rail Road Explorations. Hon. John B. Alley keeps the Library in remembrance by gifts of Volumes of the Congressional Globe, Census Reports and

other valuable public Documents and we have also received from the Swedenborg Society 19 volumes of Swedenborg's Theological Works, a most valuable and timely contribution to the Theological department of the Library. Five Volumes have also been received from the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

By direction of, and with the assistance of members of the Committee, the Library has had a more than usually strict examination during the summer vacation. It was found that many books remained on the shelves which were in an imperfect, and some in a dilapidated state and not in proper condition for circulation. Although many of these books were of a popular character and in active demand, even by those who had knowledge of their imperfections, they were rejected as unfit to remain on the shelves or to be sent into well ordered families. The whole number temporarily or wholly rejected was 296 volumes, of which number 84 were withdrawn from the Library, 121 were sent to the book-binder, and 91 volumes were thought to be of sufficient merit to be replaced by new copies. Most of these were subsequently replaced. The number supposed to be lost during the year is nine volumes.

In making this expurgation, there was much to perplex the judgment and cause indecision in action. It was often difficult, without a more careful examination than the allotted time would afford, to determine the precise degree of injury which the books had sustained to demand their rejection. While on the one hand the fact that the worn books were of a popular character and were on the printed catalogue, withheld the free use of the pruning knife, on the other their bad condition and glaring imperfections called for their expulsion, if only to maintain the character and respectability of the Library itself. On the whole it is altogether probable that the error, if any, has been committed on the side of conservatism, and that there may be many books still on the shelves which ought to be in the hands of the paper maker.

The attempt has been made the past year by a cursory examination of the new books as they have been returned, to

put a stop to the practice, before complained of, of writing in them with pencils. When this barbarism is practiced on new books, it is comparatively easy to discover the perpetrator, which is not the case with those already disfigured. I am glad to be able to report that this nuisance has considerably abated, and we may perhaps indulge the hope that it may be altogether discontinued.

The use of the Library in connection with the courses of Lectures, has often been witnessed in the increased demand for books, treating of the subject of the lecturer. This has been more than usually apparent with the course which has just closed, and which consisted mainly of scientific lectures. It is this spirit of enquiry which needs to be awakened to give both lectures and library their proper place and influence in our community.

The number of visiting strangers to the Library and hall has been greater than in any former year. The increased attraction of the new and life-like Portrait of Mr. Peabody, has doubtless had much to do with this increase. Seven hundred and forty-one visitors have recorded their names the past year, and many have called who have made no record. Frequent enquiries have been made for the portrait of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, and when that magnificent work of art, together with other expected testimonials, shall find a resting place in the Institute, the number of visitors will, no doubt, be greatly increased.

F. POOLE, *Librarian*.

Library and Lyc. Com. in acct. with G. A. Osborne, Treasurer.

1866.		Dr.
Feb'y	20, To paid Chas. D. Howard's bill for printing,	\$15 36
	23, To paid D. B. Brooks & Bro., for stationery,	5 26
May	9, To paid F. Poole's bill for services of himself and assistants,	112 50
	11, To paid C. Simonds' bill,	3 00
	11, To paid W. Simonds' bill,	14 50
	15, To paid E. P. Dutton & Co., bill for books,	105 01
Aug.	10, To paid S. B. Ives' bill for binding,	52 34
	10, To paid R. W. Wilkinson's bill for periodicals,	56 20
	10, To paid F. Poole's bill for services of himself and assistants,	125 00
	10, To paid E. P. Dutton & Co., bill for books,	78 57
	15, To paid Chas. D. Howard's bill, note headings, notices, &c.,	10 25
	15, To paid E. Littlefield's bill,	2 05
Oct'r	4, To paid Jonathan Perley's bill, for binding,	32 68
	17, To paid D. S. Littlefield's bill, for services,	8 00
	18, To paid E. P. Dutton & Co., bill for books,	129 49
Nov.	20, To paid Wm. H. Brewer, lecture,	40 00
	23, To paid F. Poole's bill for services of himself and assistants,	125 00
	27, To paid Prof. Moses T. Brown, lecture,	30 00
Dec.	4, To paid E. P. Whipple, lecture,	33 00
	11, To paid B. M. Wilder, lecture,	35 00
	18, To paid Rev. Mr. Barbour, lecture,	30 00
1867.		
Jan'y	To paid Gen. Coggsell, lecture,	35 00
	29, To paid Rev. Mr. Miner, lecture,	30 00
Feb'y	5, To paid Prof. Clark, for lectures,	240 00
	5, To paid F. Poole's bill for stationery,	9 50
	5, To paid Charles D. Howard's bill for printing,	24 30
	5, To paid D. H. Townsend's bill,	8 75
	5, To paid E. Littlefield's bill,	1 25
	5, To paid postage bill,	6 59
	5, To paid Grout & Munroe's bill,	4 90
	15, To paid F. Poole's bill for services of himself and assistants,	125 00
	15, To paid B. F. Stevens' bill,	3 37
	15, To paid E. P. Dutton & Co., bill for books,	82 16
	Balance,	13 99
		<hr/> \$1,628 02

1866.

Cr. $\overline{}$

Feb'y 16, By Balance,	\$358 07
April 24, By received for old books,	8 20
July 10, By draft on Treasurer Trustees,	700 00

1867.

Jan'y 3, By draft on Treasurer Trustees,	300 00
Feb'y 5, By fines and catalogues,	61 75
16, By draft on Trustees,	200 00

\$1,628 02

By balance, 13 99

G. A. OSBORNE, *Treasurer.*

SOUTH DANVERS, February, 1867.

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF THE FOREGOING ACCOUNT.

Dr.

Paid for books,	\$451 43
Paid for binding,	85 02
Paid Librarian and Assistants,	487 50
Paid for lectures,	500 55
Paid for printing,	49 91
Paid for stationery,	14 76
Paid for express hire, &c.,	24 86
Balance,	13 99

\$1,628 02

Cr.

By balance,	\$358 07
By received for old books,	8 20
By received for fines and catalogues,	61 75
By drafts on Trustees,	1,200 00

\$1,628 02

Balance, 13 99

G. A. OSBORNE, *Treasurer.*

SOUTH DANVERS, February, 1867.

REPORT OF THE BRANCH LIBRARY AT DANVERS.

TO THE LYCEUM AND LIBRARY COMMITTEE OF THE PEABODY
INSTITUTE:

Gentlemen,—In compliance with the rules of the Peabody Institute, we submit the following report of the Branch Library for the year ending February 1st, 1867:

The interest manifested by the citizens of the town in the Library has never been greater than during the past year, as is shown by the return of names on the ledger.

As the connection between the Branch and parent Library has now ceased, we cannot but express our pleasure in the recollection of the good feeling and harmony that has always been manifested between us from the commencement of our union. We would also join with you in expressing our gratitude to Mr. Peabody, our generous benefactor, for his last liberal gifts to the old town of Danvers. We feel assured that, when suitable arrangements are made by which we shall more fully enjoy the benefits of Mr. Peabody's gifts, the

citizens of Danvers will ever appreciate his generous efforts for their intellectual and moral improvement.

No. of names recorded on the ledger,	2,556
Increase of names over last year,	120
No. of volumes delivered during 11 months,	9,254
No. of volumes lost during 11 months,	2
No. of volumes added to the library,	8
No. of volumes now in the library,	5,254
No. of volumes bound and rebound,	48

From the records of the Secretary the finances of the Branch Library appear as follows:

Expended for binding and re-binding books,	\$52 35
Additional insurance on books,	40 25
Salary of Librarian for 11 months,	114 58
Paid assistants, and other items,	105 07
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Whole expenses,	\$312 25
Money in Treasury, February 1, 1866,	\$60 13
Money received from Income Fund,	457 80
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	\$517 93
	312 25
	<hr/>
Balance now in Treasury,	\$205 68

Respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL P. FOWLER, *Chairman,*

DANVERS, February 1st, 1867.

BRANCH LIBRARY.

Library and Lyceum Committee in acct. with G. A. Osborne, Treas.

1866.	Dr.
March 7, To paid S. B. Ives' bill for binding,	\$17 85
7, To paid Jonathan Perley's bill for binding,	34 50
13, To paid gas bills,	16 04
13, To paid Charles D. Howard's bill,	4 25
19, To paid Wm. Rankin, Jr., bill for services of himself and assistants,	80 74
July 20, To paid A. S. Howard's bill,	10 00
Aug. 10, To paid gas bills,	10 30
Oct'r 4, To paid Insurance,	40 25
22, To paid Wm. Rankin, Jr., bill for services of himself and assistants,	71 12
Nov. 23, To paid Salem Gazette's bill,	1 25
Balance,	231 57
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	\$517 87

1866.	Cr.
Feb'y 16, By balance,	\$20 07
23, By cash received from,	40 00
March 8, By draft on Trustees,	210 00
Octob'r 3, By draft on Trustees,	247 80
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	\$517 87
Balance,	\$231 17

G. A. OSBORNE, *Treasurer.*